

Remarks

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 have been cancelled. Therefore, the objections of these claims are rendered moot.

With regard to claims 30-57, it is submitted that the combination of Rochlis with Miller et al. is not appropriate. Rochlis is primarily dealing with a pile-type product which is described for use as "highly cushioned floor matting, bathing caps and the like" (page 14, lines 46-47), these are the described uses for the more fine high aspect ratio structures illustrated in Figs. 12-16. Formations of Figs. 4 and 6 are described as useful as an anti-slip shoe sole or an anti-friction cushion structure (note col. 14, lns. 33-40). The Fig. 17 drawings are special forms of the mold which are specifically directed to forming "zipper" type fastening. In Fig. 17a, the respective sheets are molded with a material containing particles of a magnetic material so that when the pile elements intermesh they magnetically grab one another.

It is specifically stated in Rochlis that with respect to cell these type of structures, that no particular cross-sectional shape is preferred and any desired shape cylindrical, conical or non-circular outline can be used.

Applicants discovered that by using a substantially rectilinear cavities in a roll that for subsequently forming of a mechanical fastener by deforming the tip of the formed protrusion that a symmetrical growth of a hooking element can be produced. In Rochlis, there is no need to modify his procedure by the method of Miller in that Rochlis clearly states that any and all desired end shape can be produced using his mold cavity. For the purposes of Rochlis, there is no need for further modifications.

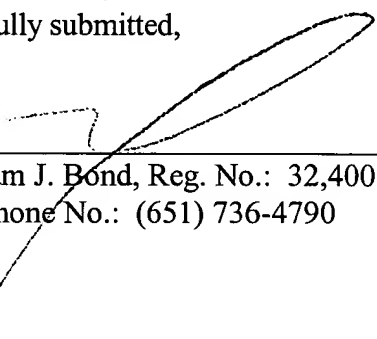
Further, there is no indication that Rochlis materials could be used as mechanical fastener in the context of a hook and loop mechanical type fastener. The "self-engaging" zipper type applications in Rochlis only imply a two dimensional type engagement rather than a three dimensional engagement as required with a more traditional hook and loop mechanical fastener

element. Rochlis is a complete solution of the problems presented in Rochlis and as such there is no need further modify Rochlis by the process of Miller. Particularly, there is no indication that to provide a rectilinear type structure would have any particular advantages versus the other shapes in Rochlis in the context of the Miller method of forming a hook type mechanical fastener by subsequent modification of the tops of the reclinearly formed structures.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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